# SUBSEQUENT PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING STATE OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

In the matter of the Life Term Parole Consideration Hearing of:	) ) )	CDC	Number	H-55090
SANTIAGO MONTENEGRO	) ) )			

CORRECTIONAL TRAINING FACILITY

SOLEDAD, CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 16, 2006

PANEL PRESENT:

JAMES DAVIS, Presiding Commissioner NOREEN BLONIEN, Deputy Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT:

SANTIAGO MONTENEGRO, Inmate
PATRICK SPARKS, Attorney for Inmate
LYNN CUTLER, Prosecutor
JOSE ZAVALA, Spanish Interpreter
ED MARTINEZ, Commissioner/Observer
Two Correctional Officers, Unidentified

CORRECTIONS	TO	THE	DECISION	AH I	VE.	BEEN	MA	.DE
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Don Larson -- Vine, McKinnon & Hall

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1 PROCEEDINGS 2 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: This is a Subsequent 3 Parole Consideration Hearing for Santiago Montenegro, CDC number H-55090. And before we get started, we do 4 5 have an interpreter with us today, so I will go ahead 6 and swear you in, sir. Raise your right hand, do you 7 solemnly swear to translate from English to Spanish and 8 from Spanish to English to the best of your ability 9 accurately? 10 INTERPRETER ZAVALA: I do. 11 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you. Today's date is August 16th, 2006. We're located at the 12 13 Correctional Training Facility in Soledad. The inmate 14 was received on November 6th, 1992, from Santa Barbara 15 County, the life term beginning on January 23rd, 1993,

with a minimum eligible parole date of January 24th, 2003. The controlling offense for which the inmate has been committed is murder second with a weapon, case number SN073860 -- 867, excuse me, better repeat that, SN073867 -- count 1, Penal Code Section 187 second slash 12022.5 paren (a). The inmate received a term of 15 years to life plus two. This hearing is being tape recorded, and for the purposes of voice identification, we will each state our first and last name, spelling the

last name, and when it reaches you, Mr. Montenegro, if

you also will give us your CDC number, please, sir.

I will start and move to my left, I'm James Davis,

1 D-A-V-I-S, Commissioner.

- 2 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN:** I'm Noreen Blonien,
- 3 B-L-O-N-I-E-N. I'm a Deputy Commissioner.
- 4 ATTORNEY CUTLER: I'm Lynn Cutler, C-U-T-L-E-R. I'm
- 5 the prosecutor.
- 6 **ATTORNEY SPARKS:** Patrick Sparks, S-P-A-R-K-S,
- 7 attorney for Mr. Montenegro.
- 8 INMATE MONTENEGRO: Santiago Montenegro, S, S, S ...
- 9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS:** Just your last name
- 10 for spelling.
- 11 INMATE MONTENEGRO: Montenegro, M-O-N-T-E-N-E-G-R-O,
- 12 H-5590 (verbatim).
- 13 INTERPRETER ZAVALA: Jose Zavala, Z-A-V-A-L-A,
- 14 Spanish interpreter.
- 15 **COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ:** Ed Martinez, M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z
- 16 Commissioner/Observer.
- 17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS:** We want the record
- also to reflect we're joined by two correctional
- 19 officers here today, who will not be joining us, for
- 20 security purposes only, and will not be actively
- 21 participating in this hearing. Mr. Zavala, if you will
- 22 read this Americans with Disabilities Act statement,
- 23 please, in Spanish.
- 24 **INTERPRETER ZAVALA:** [ADA statement read in
- 25 Spanish.]
- 26 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS:** According to our
- 27 records, on February 14th, 2006, together with staff in

1	the institution, you reviewed and signed a BPT Form
2	1073, indicating that you do not have any disabilities
3	that would qualify under the Americans with Disabilities
4	Act; however, you do need a Spanish interpreter, which
5	of course, is why Mr. Zavala is here today. Has
6	anything changed since that time, sir?
7	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
8	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, very well
. 9	And did you have an interpreter with you when you
10	reviewed your C-File?
11	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
12	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. And for
13	the psychological examination, which you took in 2002?
14	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
15	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, very well.
16	You're able to hear us all right?
17	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
18	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And you made it here
19	today under your own power? You're able to walk here?
20	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
21	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. Is there
22	any reason that you can think of why you would not be
23	able to actively participate in this hearing today?
24	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Excuse me?
25	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Is there any
26	reason anything that you can think of that would
27	preclude you from actively participating in this hearing

1 today? 2 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: 3 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, very well. 4 Counsel, you're satisfied with that as well? 5 ATTORNEY SPARKS: Yes. 6 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. 7 This hearing is being conducted pursuant to Penal Code sections 3041 and 3042 and the rules and 8 regulations of the Board of Prison Terms governing 9 10 parole consideration hearings for life inmates. purpose of today's hearing is to once again consider the 11 12 number and nature of the crimes for which you were 13 committed, your prior criminal and social history, and 14 your behavior and programming since your commitment. 15 We've had the opportunity today to review your Central 16 File and your prior transcript, and you will be given 17 the opportunity to clarify the record as we proceed. We 18 will reach a decision today and inform you of whether or not we find you suitable for parole and the reasons for 19 20 our decision. If you are found suitable for parole, the length of your confinement will be explained to you. 21 22 Nothing that happens here today will change the findings 23 of the court. The Panel is not here to retry your case, the Panel is here for the sole purpose of determining 24 25 your suitability for parole. Do you understand that, 26 sir? INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: 27

1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you. This 2 hearing will be conducted in basically two phases, first 3 I will discuss with you the crime for which you were 4 committed, as well as your prior criminal and social 5 history; and Commissioner Blonien will then discuss with 6 you your progress since your commitment, your 7 counselor's report, psychological evaluation, parole 8 plans, and any literature of support or opposition as they may exist. Once that is concluded, the 9 10 prisoners -- the Commissioners, excuse me -- and the District Attorney, and your attorney will have an 11 opportunity to ask you questions. Questions that come 12 13 from the District Attorney will be asked through the 14 Chair, and you will respond back to the Panel with your 15 response. Next, the District Attorney and then your 16 attorney will be given an opportunity to make a final closing statement and then followed by your closing 17 statement. Your closing statement should focus on your 18 suitability for parole. The California Code of 19 20 Regulations states that regardless of time served, an 21 inmate shall be found unsuitable for and denied parole 22 if, in the judgment of the Panel, the inmate would pose an unreasonable risk of danger to society if released 23 from prison. And now you have certain rights, those 24 25 rights include the right to a timely notice of this 26 hearing, the right to review your Central File, and the 27 right to present relevant documents. Counsel, are you

satisfied your client's rights have been met to date? 1 2 ATTORNEY SPARKS: Yes. 3 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you. You have 4 an additional right, and that is to be heard by an 5 impartial panel. Now you've heard your panel introduce themselves this morning, is there any reason for you to 6 7 believe that we would not be impartial? 8 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible). 9 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you. You will 10 receive a written copy of our tentative decision today. That decision becomes effective in 120 days. A copy of 11 the decision and a copy of the transcript will be sent 12 13 to you. The Panel -- the Board -- has eliminated its 14 appeal process; if you disagree with anything in today's 15 hearing, you have the right to go directly to court with 16 your complaint. You are not required to admit your 17 offense or discuss your offense; however, once again, the Panel does accept the findings of the court to be 18 19 true. Do you understand that, sir? 20 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: 21 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Commissioner, are we going to be dealing with anything from a 22 confidential file today? 23 24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: There's no 25 confidential information. PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. 26 Then I'm going to pass a checklist and documents to both counsel, 27

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1	if you'll take a look at that to make sure we're all
2	operating off the same list of documents. The
3	prosecution, do you have those documents as well?
4	ATTORNEY CUTLER: Yes.
5	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. Then
6	we'll mark that Exhibit 1. Counsel, anything additional
7	you would like us to consider today?
8	ATTORNEY SPARKS: No, thank you.
9	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. Any
10	preliminary objections?
11	ATTORNEY SPARKS: No.
12	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. Will your
13	client be speaking with us today?
14	ATTORNEY SPARKS: Yes, but he won't be talking about
15	the crime.
16	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. If there
17	are no other matters if you'll raise your right hand.
18	Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony you
19	will give at this hearing will be the truth and nothing
20	but the truth?
21	INMATE MONTENEGRO: Yes.
22	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, thank you.
23	For a summary of the crime, I'm going to refer to the
24	probation officer's report starting on page 2 under the
25	heading of offense. It starts on the first paragraph,
26	where it states that:

27 "On November 13th, 1985, Santa Maria police

1	officers responded to El Conquistador Bar at
2	210 South Bloosser, B-L-O-O-S-S-E-R,
3	Santa Maria, to investigate a shooting.
4	Officers found Antonio Hernandez Cardona,
5	C-A-R-D-O-N-A, age 22, slumped in the right
6	front passenger's seat of an automobile.
7	Officers observed a gunshot wound into the
8	front of his neck. An ambulance was called and
9	he was taken to Maria Medical Center, where he
LO	died at 2315 hours. Doctors concluded the
L1	victim died as a result of a gunshot wound to
L2	the anterior neck slash chest, exiting through
L3	the back. A second entry wound in the left
L4	shoulder revealed a .44 caliber bullet. The
L5	victim was shot three times. Investigations
L6	revealed the victim was the alleged boyfriend
L7	of Lilliana Beltran, B-E-L-T-R-A-N, and they
L8	had been inside the El Conquistador Bar.
L9	Ms. Beltran left the bar and went outside to
20	the victim's car. The defendant followed
21.	Ms. Beltran out to the car, sat down in the
22	car, and tried to kiss her. The victim came
23	out of the bar with two friends, saw what was
24	going on, and pulled the defendant out of the
25	car. The victim and defendant verbally argued.
26	The defendant pulled a .44 Magnum pistol from
27	his waistband and fired three or four shots

1	into the victim. The defendant fled the area.
2	The defendant told officers upon his arrest he
3	had hidden in a cardboard box in an alley until
4	daylight, had been in Reedley, California, and
5	had gone on to Mexico, and for the past three
6	years had been living in Guadalupe."
7	Under prisoner's version, as listed in the June 2002
8	Board Report, it states that in an interview for the
9	Montenegro an interview for this report, Montenegro
10	indicated that his previous interview with staff
11	psychiatrist Cheema, C-H-E-E-M-A, on 1/16/96, he
12	indicated that his present version remained the same.
13	Montenegro stated that he was involved in a fight with
14	an unknown
15	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Just a question.
16	Mr. Sparks, you're aware that in the '02 psych report
17	there's a different version.
18	ATTORNEY SPARKS: Well, there's probably three
19	versions total.
20	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Right.
21	ATTORNEY SPARKS: So, I'm not sure which one you
22	want to refer to
23	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Well, we're going to
24	refer to all the ones that we have, actually, so we'll
25	have this and plus
26	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: They're very
27	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: we have the psych

1	that we're going to
2	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: They're very
3	conflicting, and I don't know if he understood when he
4	talked to his counselor and referred to the psych
5	report, he really meant the '96 psych report where he
6	said he had no responsibility, or the '02 psych report
7	where he took full responsibility. And so since this is
8	only his first hearing, for Subsequent Hearing, I know
9	you want the record clear.
10	ATTORNEY SPARKS: His statement to me was that he
11	shot the victim.
12	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So that's in the '02
13	psych report. I believe in the '96 psych report he said
14	he did not.
15	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Why don't we do this,
16	we'll go ahead and go through this part of this, that
17	will give us at least a chronology for now, and when we
18	get to this part of it, and then when we get to the
19	psych report, we'll cover that as well.
20	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Okay.
21	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: So we'll have
22	(inaudible). Is there a third?
23	ATTORNEY SPARKS: Maybe, but not right now.
24	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. So we'll
25	have at least everything on the record for this time,
26	and then we'll get it from there.

**ATTORNEY SPARKS:** Okay.

1	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Montenegro stated he
2	was involved in a fight with an unknown person who was a
3	female, he was sitting in a bar with friends, the
4	subject reports that he, that his friend, shot the
5	victim when the subject's friend saw the victim was
6	going to kill the subject. Montenegro denies that he
7	killed the victim. Montenegro states that his friend
8	killed the person, and he is angry that authorities did
9	not take any action against this person who is
10	reportedly the culprit and is now living in Mexico, in
11	spite that he has given information to the authorities.
12	Montenegro does not take any responsibility for the
13	incident, but states that he deals with the situation
14	differently, by walking away from situations, from the
15	situations again. Montenegro does have, does
16	Montenegro does not have any remorse for the incident.
17	Montenegro reports that he feels bad that a life was
18	lost in the incident, but reports that the victim would
19	have killed him if the victim was not shot. Montenegro
20	states that initially he took the responsibility for the
21	incident, as he wanted to save his friend, who
22	reportedly, was trying to save the subject, but now
23	feels that he should not have taken responsibility for
24	the crime. And it is clear that there are conflicting
25	reports within the same Board Report, so we'll make sure
26	that we cover all of those, and, as always, if your
27	client would like to change his mind at some point in

1 time and comment to the Board about any of this, we're

2 certainly more than willing to hear him; however, we

3 understand and appreciate that he has an absolute right

4 not to do so.

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ATTORNEY SPARKS: I think when I made my statement about there might be another version is that he was interviewed the last time concerning the crime by the Board of Parole Hearings, and that's where he made a sworn statement under oath, and that's what he would be sticking to, since they don't send me but the summary of the decision, and I didn't go through the C-File to look at that, because after the interview, that's what he was saying to me. That would probably be where his version would be today, that in fact the official statement that he made to the Board of Parole Hearings, at his initial Hearing, would be the one that he would stick with. That's what he informed to me the other day, just recently, with the help of the interpreter. sure what that one says since I haven't read it, but that would be the one.

presiding commissioner davis: We'll pull the transcript and take a look at it. In the interim, however, we'll go through and talk about -- in terms of prior arrests, there are no, there's no indication of a juvenile arrest. And in terms of adult arrests, the only arrest was in 5 of 1992 for driving under the influence. At that time he used the name of Santiago

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1	Garcia. Do you recall the arrest in 1992,
2	Mr. Montenegro?
3	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Nothing that
4	came to the Board. I told you that I haven't been
5	arrested since '91.
6	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay, so the arrest
7	in 1992 using the name of Santiago Garcia is not you?
8	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
9	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Personal
LO	Factors indicates that you were born in Mexico, you're
L1	not married, and have no children? And you are, you are
12	one of six children. In terms of employment, you were
L3	employed in a variety of positions including filleting
L 4	fish; working in, as a fieldworker for harvesting grape
15	crops?
16	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
L7	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I find that I have to
L8	go through several places to try and find out more about
L9	you in this report because it's not very consolidated.
20	You went through three years of grade school in Mexico?
21	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
22	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Did you, was that the
23	extent of your formal education as a young person?
24	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
25	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: You were born and
2.6	raised in Mexico, you came to the United States

illegally in 1979?

1	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
2	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And you were 23 at
3	that time, and you came with one of your brothers?
4	INMATE MONTENEGRO: Si.
5	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And you would go back
6	and forth to your home, back into the United States
7	working?
8	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
9	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Do you still keep in
10	contact with your family?
11	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
12	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: So you do have mostly
13	cards and letters and so forth?
14	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
15	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. It indicates
16	that you began drinking beer at the age of 19, and would
17	drink three or four beers a day, that you really did not
18	drink to, to excess at any time?
19	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
20	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And in this, this is
21	out of the psych, this is out of the 2002 psychiatric
22	report, and they also, they also indicate a, an arrest
23	for driving under the influence of alcohol in the
24	United States. Were you ever arrested for driving under
25	the influence of alcohol?
26	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: That was
27	around (inaudible).

1	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Did you use
2	your correct name at that time?
3	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
4	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: What name did you
5	use?
6	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I think it
7	was Martinez.
8	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Have you ever
9	been arrested other than that? For anything?
10	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
11	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. You used
12	marijuana for about three or four months.
13	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
14	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. You never
15	served in the Armed Forces?
16	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
17	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Let's see, this
18	indicates that you went up to five years in school in
19	Mexico. It's going back to the probation officer's
20	report from some time back. Did you, was it, did you do
21	all of your schooling in Mexico?
22	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
23	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And it seems pretty
24	consistent in terms of drinking and so forth. So, did,
25	how many members of your family came north with you?
26	Just your brother?
27	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Excuse me?

1	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: How many people came
2	up to the United States with you? Just your brother?
3	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Also one
. 4	sister and my parents did.
5	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay, so they all
6	came up?
.7	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
8	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: And you stay in
9	contact with them as well?
10	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible).
11	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Would you describe
12	your, your family life as being fairly normal?
13	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
14	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Anything unusual, no
15	abuse
16	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
17	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Any alcoholism?
18	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No. They do
19	drink, but a little.
20	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, all the
21	other members of your family doing well, nobody's had a
22	problem with law enforcement?
23	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
24	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Good. Is
25	there anything we haven't talk about regarding your
26	prior history, coming into the institution, that is,
27	your social history, your schooling, family life,

1	relations with family or friends, et cetera, that you
2	think is important for the Panel to understand, that we
3	haven't discussed so far?
4	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No.
5	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right.
6	Commissioner, do you have any questions?
7	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I don't.
8	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Mr. Montenegro, if
9	you think of something as we proceed, if something else
10	comes to mind that you think is important that we
11	understand, please take the opportunity to just let us
12	know what that is. All right. And I'll ask you to turn
13	your attention to me. Commissioner Blonien.
14	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Mr. Montenegro, it's
15	my job to go over what you do in the institution since
16	your last hearing. I'm going to go over your psych
17	report and I read your C-File, I've read the Board
18	report, and I saw you did a review of your C-File, so if
19	I forget anything or miss anything at the end of my
20	presentation, you can we'll have a discussion. So,
21	your last hearing was June 18th, of 2002, and the
22	decision was for a four year denial, and the Panel
23	recommended that you become and remain
24	disciplinary-free, upgrade vocationally and
25	educationally, and participate in self-help. So, your
26	classification score is 19, and your custody level is
27	medium A, and 19 is as low as possible for a lifer

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1	inmate. You, your counselor, Counselor Studebaker
2	(phonetic), completed the report in June of '06, and
3	Dr. William Garmard, G-A-R-M-A-R-D, completed his psych
4	report in March 29th of '02. So, in, in looking at what
5	you've done in the institution, you have remained
6	disciplinary-free, you only have one 115, and that was
7	in 2002, right before your last parole hearing. You did
8	have a 128 on 3/8/04 for contraband. What did you have?
9	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: A 128,
10	probably, a classification, but I didn't go to work.
1.1	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Oh. It talks about a
12	single-edge razor blade, box cutter, inside his assigned
13	locker.
14	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: That's true;
15 .	that's another one.
16	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And then you have one,
17	3/5/02, and that was about reporting to work, and that
18	since you did not get a shower after working, you would
19	not report to work until you showered, is what you said.
20	You got a 128 for that. In total, you have one, two,
21	three, six 128s, which are minor. So when we talk about
22	education, you're talking to the Commissioner, and it
23	was unclear to me whether you had three years of
24	education in Mexico or five years of education.
25	
-0	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: As I recall,
26	<pre>INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: As I recall, it was only three years that I went. I went to school</pre>

27 here for about five or six years.

1	<b>DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN:</b> And you're in a
2	difficult position here because you've been terminated
3	from education, they feel you've worked really hard, but
4	you're as far as you can go. And you haven't attained a
5	sixth grade reading level, so you're not eligible for
6	Vocational Training programs, correct? You know that?
7	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
8	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So, before you came in
9	here, you were a fish cutter and a mushroom farmer, but
10	you haven't really been able to pick up a vocation here
11	that translates into the community easily. But, you are
12	a worker. You're a very good worker, and since your
13	last hearing, you've been a Porter, and you work in
14	Waste Management now. And I looked at your reports from
15	your supervisor, and every single one since your last
16	hearing says you are excellent in every category, you're
17	on time, you do the job, you're enthusiastic, you're
18	respectful to staff, to other inmates so do you enjoy
19	this job?
20	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Enjoy the
21	job, yes.
22	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And did you do
23	Recycling too?
24	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
25	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So tell me about that.
26	Tell me about your job.
27	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: What I do

	20
1	there, is I clean up the, the lard there, clean the can
2	where they empty the garbage, somebody asks me, asks me
3	to clean an office, to wax it.
4	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So, that's a skill
5	that translates into the community, whether you go to
6	California or Mexico. Now you do have a U.S./INS hold
7	on you, correct?
8	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
9	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And after we talk
10	about what you've done in the institution, we're going
11	to talk about your parole plans. You're also very
12	active in AA, and there's chronos in there from your
13	last hearing covering the years '02, '03, '04 are you
14	still in AA?
15	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I'm
16	attending not at this moment, because there's been a lo
17	of lockdown.
18	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Yeah. And when you
19	attend, do you attend AA in Spanish?
20	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
21	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And I noticed on one
22	of the chronos your sponsor says that you are fully
23	participating, and you're very enthusiastic.
24	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
25	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So you've worked

27 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Not yet, I

through the steps?

1 make some mistakes.

2 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So, when Commissioner 3 Davis was reading about your crime, and about your 4 history, you said you didn't have a problem with 5 alcohol, that you were a social drinker, but the crime, 6 you know, was committed around a bar atmosphere, and I 7 know you're not talking about the crime, so I don't know how much you were drinking that night, but one of the 8 9 concerns of the Panel would be if you were in a like 10 situation in a bar in a social atmosphere, if you would 11 have the same bad judgment, and what you've learned 12 inside the institution that would help you make good decisions if you were released to the community. And 13 14 I'd like you to tell me what you've learned in that 15 area. 16 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I didn't understand that. 17 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: We're worried about 18 19 the circumstances of your crime involved in a bar area. 20 So if released, what have you learned in prison that 21 would keep you from making bad decisions in the 22 community? 23 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Well, the 24 time I've been here has taught me -- biggest mistakes I 25 made in my life. And that is attending -- I believe 26 that if I were given a date, a release date, one day 27 that I would never go back to one of those.

1	<b>DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN:</b> And is there like
2	going through AA, people talk about the steps. And they
3	talk about how the steps help them make better
4	decisions. So, since he hasn't worked through any
5	steps, what's going to help him?
6	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: What would
7	help me is to hear what these people have gone through.
8	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I know in this
9	institution, there's other programs available, like
10	anger management. Has he tried to go to any of those
11	programs?
12	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I know I
13	committed a violent crime. That was in (inaudible).
14	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I would think there
15	was a lot of anger involved in this crime.
16	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible)
17	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: He, does he read books
18	in Spanish to himself?
19	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Very little,
20	not yet.
21	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Do you know how to
22	read in Spanish?
23	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible).
24	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: A little? That could
25	be a problem. How little can you read?
26	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: To read like
2.7	this, take about five minutes.

Т	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: That, that is
2	difficult. When you were talking to the psych in '02,
3	Dr. Garmard, he stated that you have no mental health
4	issues, you have no mental illness, that you're lucky
5	enough to have no physical illnesses, he doesn't note
6	any drug abuse or alcohol abuse by history or in
7	remission. And he gives you what we call a Global
8	Assessment Functioning score of 85, which means that
9	you're an extremely high functioning inmate and you
10	would be a highly functioning individual in the
11	community if released. In talking he talked to you
12	right before you got this 115, and he states that the
13	inmate has not received any 115 violations for violent
14	behavior, and the one 115 that you did have was for
15	refusing to work, which you did. "Therefore, it is felt
16	that he would pose a less than average risk for violence
17	when compared with this (inaudible) inmate population.
18	If released to the community, his violence potential is
19	estimated to be no higher than that of the average
20	citizen in the community." And this is based on the no
21	evidence of previous violent behavior or any violent
22	behavior since your offense. "Although he did flee the
23	scene of the crime and evaded arrest for six years and
24	formerly appeared to lack remorse for his crime, he has
25	since accepted full responsibility." And there, he's
26	alluding to the fact that when he was talking to you
27	about the crime, that during the conversation, the

1	doctor states that you changed your story and
2	admitted he said, the doctor said, "However, when
3	more of his own words were quoted back to him, such as
4	his early admission that the gun was his, that he got
5	the gun out of the trunk of his friend's car, that he
6	threw the gun in the grass after the shooting when he
7	fled the scene, he suddenly admitted shooting the
8	victim. When asked why he denied that it had to do with
9	jealousy over the woman, he simply said that he shot the
10	victim after the victim made a verbal threat against
11	him. He then admitted that his mistake was to shot
12	another man over a verbal threat and said he regrets
13	everything that he did. He told about how he had lied
14	in the past, saying that one friend shot the victim in
15	order to protect the inmate from being shot or that his
16	other friend, Pedro, was to be blame, not him. The
17	inmate's sudden honesty in the middle of the BPT
18	evaluation is rare, and he is to be commended for taking
19	full responsibility for his actions." When, we're not
20	going to talk about the crime, but I did want to ask you
21	about remorse for the victim. Do you have a comment?
22	<pre>INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible.)</pre>
23	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Do you ever think
24	about the victim's family?
25	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
26	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: In going over what
27	you've been doing in the institution, have I covered

1	everything? So, a typical day for you, you go to work,
2	correct?
3	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
4	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: My recorder can't
5	(inaudible). Do you work out?
6	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: A little.
7	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Do you go to church?
8	<pre>INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Not really.</pre>
9	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Do you, what do you
LO	do?
L1	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I go to work
L2	out after working, I go use the shower, wait for dinner.
L3	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I want to talk to you
L 4	about your parole plans. I don't see any letters from
L5	your family.
L6	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible).
L7	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: The letters have to be
L8	new because four years is a long time and circumstances
L9	change. So, if you were deported to Mexico, where would
20	you go?
21	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: In Mexico,
22	where my parents have a house in Mexico. And they told
23	me that I could live there as long as I wanted.
24	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And do your parents
25	have a ranch?
26	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: No, they

have a home, but not a ranch.

1	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And what city?
2	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Colima.
3	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Near Manzanillo? Very
4	nice, where the volcanoes are. Very nice. And what
5	would you do for work?
6	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: My thoughts
7	are if I'm released one day is go plant corn, and also
8 .	raise cattle.
9	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Where would you get
10	the cattle?
11	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I would buy
12	them.
13	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: You have a lot of
14	money?
15	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I don't, but
16	I can by working.
17	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So do you understand
18	that if we parole you, we need a letter from your family
19	saying that you can live there, that they will help you
20	live until you can get a job, that there are job
21	opportunities there for you, and that their support for
22	you because after you've been in prison a long time,
23	to be free you need support to be successful. Do you
24	understand that?
25	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
26	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And if by chance the
27	U.S./INS hold doesn't materialize, where would you live

1 in California? 2 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I have an 3 aunt who I (inaudible). She would give me a place to 4 work and a place to stay. 5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: And where does she 6 live? 7 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Santa Maria. 8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: So you would need, you 9 know, a letter from her, saying that you could live 10 there, that she'll help you find work, that she'll give 11 you money until you find work. How old are you now? 12 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: 13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN:** Okay. So you're still 14 a young man, and when you do get out, you'll be able to 15 work. But you'll have to have all this in order. This 16 is your responsibility, because we can't just say we 17 think he's going to Mexico, we have to have 18 verification. And it's a hard job for you to get that 19 verification, so you have to start work on it right 20 away. And then in terms of what you do in the 21 institution, you have to do more. You were given a 22 sentence of life with a possibility of parole, and you 23 have to earn your way out of here. And the way you do 24 it is you work really hard, which you do; you don't get 25 any 115s or 128s, which you're good at; and you go to 26 programs that help you when you're released to make the

right decisions. And then you come to Board and you

	20
1	tell us what you've been doing, or you have chronos in
2	your file. So just going to AA is good, but it's not
3	enough. Do you have a question?
4	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: What other
5	programs do you recommend?
6	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Well, you have to go
7	out there and see what's available. You talk to all the
8	other inmates that are in your situation that don't
9	speak English so well. I've been here and those inmates
10	do get dates, and you have to ask them what's caused
11	them to be successful. And it's different for every
12	inmate. If I tell you what to do, that's not you making
13	your decision to get you out. But there, there are
14	things out there, and you have the ability to do well.
15	So I hope you'll do that. We also sent out notices to
16	local law enforcement and interested parties, and
17	although I didn't receive any letters, the District
18	Attorney from southwestern Santa Barbara is represented,
19	and at the appropriate time, he will be able to ask you
20	questions and/or make a closing statement. And with
21	that I return to the Chairperson.
22	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, thank you.
23	Mr. Montenegro, if we can just try this from a different
24	perspective perhaps, is there one of the steps that
25	you've been working on that you think about or that you

27 INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: One of the

find especially appropriate for you?

	29
1	things I like to do is like a (inaudible) hobby card,
2	but they denied it.
3	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. With regard t
4	the Alcoholics Anonymous
5	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I need to turn the
6	tape over.
7	[Whereupon, the tape was turned over.]
8	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: With regard to
9	Alcoholics Anonymous, is there one of the steps that,
LO	that you have been listening to, that you think is
L1	especially helpful for you?
L2	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: I don't
L3	remember any of them because most of the time
L 4	(inaudible).
L5	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. That may be
L6	something that I think you were you were given some
L7	good advice earlier by, by Commissioner Blonien, and I
L8	think that if you want to also follow-up with that idea
L9	of maybe committing some of these steps to, maybe not
20	verbatim, but a good understanding of what they mean fo
21	you in terms of the crimes, your feeling of remorse for
22	the victim, things that you can, that you can take an
23	active step in, would be helpful for you. All right.
24	Commissioner Blonien, any other questions?
25	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: I don't.
26	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. Does the

District Attorney have questions?

1	ATTORNEY CUTLER: I do not.
2	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Mr. Sparks?
3	ATTORNEY SPARKS: No, thank you.
4	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Closing then?
5	ATTORNEY CUTLER: Just briefly, this was an
6	extremely stupid case, the only thought he demonstrated
7	was his ability to escape. Now that the Commissioner
8	has quietly eviscerated his plans, i.e., she's exposed
9	the fact that he has modest vocational abilities, albei
LO	a good work ethic; he has modest employment skills;
L1	limited employment opportunities, if any; he hasn't
L2	taken advantage of the AA program; he has limited
L3	literacy; and the picture is painted very grim for a man
L 4	who, however he wound up in Mexico or found his way back
L5	to Santa Maria, could very well find himself back at the
L6	dives on Bloosser Street in Santa Maria and committing
L7	the same sort of crime that got him in here. I ask that
L8	you deny his request. Submitted.
L9	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, thank you
20	Mr. Sparks.
21	ATTORNEY SPARKS: To his credit, Mr. Montenegro has
22	completed some AA, he does have some contact with the
23	country of origin where deportation is eminent, so the
24	requirement that he complete some form of GED would be
25 .	nice, but perhaps either unrealistic because of his
26	motivation or unnecessary because of the status that he
27	would have as a foreign citizen. Learning U.S. History

1	may not be something relevant for purposes of his status
2	as a foreign national. I understand the Board of Parole
3	Hearings would like to see somebody become all they can
4	be while they're incarcerated he was pleasant with
5	the Panel today. He's grown and matured while he's beer
6	incarcerated. He's only had one 115 recently, and that
7	was nonviolent. The correctional counselor's report in
8	'02 deemed him to be a low threat. That must mean that
9	he's doing some of the things, institutionally, that
10	would show that he would be a good citizen if released
11	to the community, because he's been a good citizen while
12	incarcerated. This was, in my opinion, an unfortunate
13	set of circumstances that was aggravated by alcohol use
14	and would not likely happen again, particularly if
15	Mr. Montenegro abstained from the use of alcohol. He's
16	talked about his plan of recovery, and has indicated
17	that that's not something he's interested in. And he
18	does have employable skills from institutional work.
19	I'll submit it with that. Thank you.
20	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, thank you.
21	Mr. Montenegro, now is your opportunity to address the
22	Panel directly and talk to us about your suitability for
23	parole.
24	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Talk to you
25	about what?
26	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: About why you feel
27	that you're suitable for a parole.

1	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: (Inaudible)
2	if I were to be released, I would go to Mexico and work
3	at a ranch down there.
4	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Is that all, sir?
5,	INMATE MONTENEGRO TRHOUGH INTERPRETER: Yes.
6	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right, thank you
7	very much. We will now recess for deliberations.
8	RECESS
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## CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

2 DECISION

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3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN:** We're on record.

PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I want the record to reflect that all those previously identified as being in the room have returned. And this is in the matter of Santiago Montenegro, CDC number H-55090. The Panel reviewed all information received from the public and relied on the following circumstances in concluding that the prisoner is not suitable for a parole and would pose an unreasonable risk to society or a threat to public safety if released from prison. We have come to this conclusion first by the commitment offense: The offense was carried out in an especially callous manner, and the motive for the offense was very trivial in relation to the offense. The conclusion, and these conclusions are drawn from the statement of facts, wherein the prisoner was convicted of the senseless death by use of a firearm of the victim. We find that there is no previous record. With regard to institutional behavior, we find that you have programmed in a limited manner while incarcerated, that you have seven 128(a) counseling chronos, the last of which was in 3 of '05, and one serious 115 disciplinary report, the last of which was -- the only, actually -- occurred in 3 of '02. psychological report of March 2002 by Dr. Garmard was S. MONTENEGRO H-55090 DECISION PAGE 1

1	supportive, but is dated and does not consider the most
2	recent 115 disciplinary report. With regard to parole
3	plans, we find that you do not have viable residential
4	plans in either the United States or Mexico, and do not
5	have acceptable employment plans in either the United
6	States or Mexico. With regard to the 3042 notices, we
7	note that the District Attorney from Santa Barbara
8	County is here in person by representative, and does
9	oppose parole. Nevertheless, we do want to commend you
10	for your attendance in AA in Spanish and your and
11	again, your attendance there and your work as a
12	Porter and in Waste Management with excellent work
13	reports for being on time, respectful to staff and
14	inmates. However, these positive aspects of behavior do
15	not outweigh the factors for unsuitability. And in a
16	separate decision, the Hearing Panel finds that you have
17	been convicted of murder, and it is not reasonable to
18	expect that parole would be granted during the next
19	three years. We come to this conclusion first by the
20	commitment offense itself, in that the offense was
21	carried out in an especially callous manner. The motive
22	for the crime was very trivial in relation to your
23	offense. These conclusions are drawn from the statement
24	of facts wherein the prisoner was convicted of the
25	senseless death by use of a firearm of the victim, that
26	you have programmed in a limited manner while
27	S. MONTENEGRO H-55090 DECISION PAGE 2 8/16/06

1 incarcerated. Disciplinaries while incarcerated 2 includes seven 128(a)s, the last of which was in 3 of 3 '05, and one serious 115 disciplinary report, the last that occurred in 3 of '02. The psychological report of 4 5 March 2002 by Dr. Garmard was supportive, but dated, and 6 does not consider the most recent 115. With regard to 7 parole plans, we find that you do not have viable plans 8 for the United States or Mexico, and do not have 9 acceptable employment plans for the United States or 10 Mexico. With regard to 3042 notices, we note that the District Attorney from Santa Barbara County is here in 11 12 person by representative and does oppose parole. With 13 regard to recommendations, the Panel recommends that you 14 have no more 128s or 115s, and as available, that you upgrade vocationally and educationally. And in terms of 15 16 education, one of the things we want to recommend to you 17 is that you use your time to, as available, to 18 participate in programs that will help you with your 19 reading or being, with your comprehension, your ability 20 1 to retain what you read. Work on things that have to do 21 with your AA or that you can begin to assimilate or 22 remember those steps so that you can use those in your 23 day to day decision-making process and can come to a future panel where you can discuss how the, what you 24 25 have learned, either in your AA or in anger management. 26 Certainly this Panel is not here to offer or to promote 27 S. MONTENEGRO H-55090 DECISION PAGE 3

1	one program over another, but any other programs that
2	you do participate in that you would be able to come
3	to a Panel and be able to talk to that Panel about what
4	you've learned and how that has made a difference in
5	your decision-making and how that will keep you from
6	committing any types of crimes. When you do ultimately
7	receive a date and as available, that you participate
8	in self-help, and that you continue to earn positive
9	chronos. And the Panel has recommended that a new
10	psychological report be completed, and that as part of
11	that report that they also review your ability to learn
12	and retain information. Commissioner, is there anything
13	you would like to add?
14	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BLONIEN: Yes, you're going to
15	get a copy of this Board decision. You have one of your
16	friends read it to you. And you concentrate on what you
17	said to this Panel. And do a better job. Good luck.
18	PRESIDING COMMISSIONER DAVIS: All right. We wish
19	you the best of luck, sir. We are adjourned.
20	000
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22	
23	PAROLE DENIED THREE YEARS
24	THIS DECISION WILL BE FINAL ON: December 14, 2006
25	YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED IF, PRIOR TO THAT
	DATE THE DECISION IS MODIFIED

H-55090 DECISION PAGE 4 8/16/06

27

S. MONTENEGRO

### CERTIFICATE AND

### DECLARATION OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Don Larson, a duly designated transcriber, VINE, MCKINNON & HALL, do hereby declare and certify under penalty of perjury that I have transcribed tape(s) which total one in number and cover a total of pages numbered 1 - 36, and which recording was duly recorded at CORRECTIONAL TRAINING FACILITY, at SOLEDAD, CALIFORNIA, in the matter of the SUBSEQUENT PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING of SANTIAGO MONTENEGRO, CDC No. H-55090, on AUGUST 16, 2006, and that the foregoing pages constitute a true, complete, and accurate transcription of the aforementioned tape(s) to the best of my ability.

I hereby certify that I am a disinterested party in the above-mentioned matter and have no interest in the outcome of the hearing.

Dated NOVEMBER 10, 2006, at Sacramento County, California.

Don Larson

VINE, MCKINNON & HALL